

More on dyslexia

- The following text contains 385 words. Reduce it to not more than 200 words by eliminating words, phrases or sentences that do not supply essential information

Dyslexia is a specific reading disability caused by a **defect** in the brain's **processing of** graphic symbols. It is a learning disability that alters the way the brain processes written material.

Two common beliefs about dyslexia are that dyslexic children are **prone to** see letters or words backwards, and that the problem is linked to intelligence. Both beliefs are incorrect: the problem with dyslexia is linguistic, not visual, and dyslexia in no way **stems** from any lack of intelligence. Indeed, people with severe dyslexia can be brilliant.

Dyslexia is an **impaired** reading ability, with a competence level below that expected on the basis of the person's level of intelligence, vision, letter recognition and recognition of the meaning of pictures and objects. The effects of dyslexia, in fact, vary from person to person. The only **shared trait** among people with dyslexia is that they read at levels significantly lower than those typical of people of their age.

Dyslexia is thought to be one of the most common learning difficulties and appears to be more common in boys than girls.

Dyslexia affects people of all ethnic backgrounds, although a person's native language can play an important role. A language such as Italian or Spanish, where there is a clear connection between how a word is written and how it sounds, and **consistent** grammatical rules, can be more **straightforward** to **cope with** for a person with mild to moderate dyslexia.

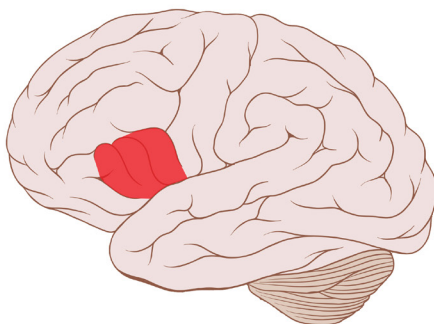
Languages such as English, however, where there is often no clear connection between the written and spoken forms, can be more **challenging** for a person with dyslexia.

Symptoms of dyslexia may include expressive language problems or disabilities. When reading aloud, for example, people with dyslexia may **reverse** words or parts of words. A dyslexic child may read the word "bad" as if it were "dab". Word order and sounds may also be confused by dyslexics, or words often omitted.

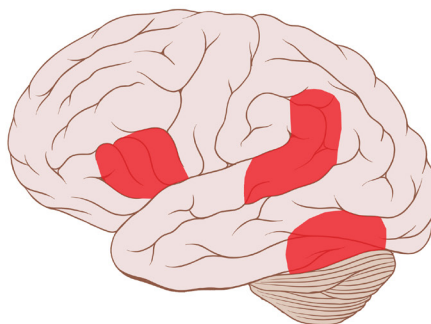
Students with dyslexia may have difficulty pronouncing words, especially those with more than one syllable. Homonyms, synonyms, rhymes and idioms are difficult for dyslexics, while difficulty following instructions may also be a symptom of dyslexia.

There are a number of different theories about the causes of dyslexia, but all tend to agree that it is a genetic condition that changes how the brain **deals with** information.

to be prone to: *tendere a*
challenging: *difficile*
consistent: *costante*
to cope with: *affrontare*
to deal with: *trattare*
defect: *manca*
impaired: *limitata*
processing of: *elaborazione*
to reverse: *invertire*
shared: *condiviso*
to stem: *originarsi*
straightforward: *semplice*
trait: *tratto, caratteristica*



Dyslexic Readers



Typical Readers

Activation patterns in the left hemisphere